

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:
a tuner configured to tune to a radio frequency (RF) carrier frequency associated with an AV only transport associated with AV signals and an integrated transport associated with AV and data packets;
a demodulator configured to demodulate the tuned transports for output to a switch;
the switch configured to simultaneously separate the AV signals associated with the AV only transport from the AV and data packets associated with the integrated transport;
a data processor in communication with the switch and configured to separate the AV packets from the data packets included within the integrated transport;
a demultiplexer in communication with the switch and the data processor configured to process AV payloads both from the separate AV packets of the integrated transport and from the AV signals of the AV only transport, wherein the AV signals of the AV only transport are received directly from the switch and wherein the AV packets associated with the integrated transport are received through a signaling pathway in which the switch outputs the integrated transport associated with the AV packets directly to the data processor and the data processor outputs the AV packets directly to the demultiplexer; and
a decoder in communication with the demultiplexer and configured to decode the AV payloads for output to a video port and an audio port.
2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the AV only transport is associated with a baseline architecture.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the integrated transport is associated with an extended mode 1 architecture.

4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the integrated transport is associated with an extended mode 2 architecture.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the decoder is configured for decoding the AV payloads compressed according to MPEG-2 protocols.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein the decoder is configured for decoding the AV payloads compressed according to advanced video compression (AVC) protocols.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the AVC protocols are associated with MPEG-4.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the AVC protocols are associated with H.264.

11. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a cable modem in communication with the data processor for processing the data packets.

12-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously Presented) An apparatus comprising:

a switch configured to simultaneously route a first transport to a demultiplexer and a second transport to a data processor, the first transport having packets with only AV payloads and the second transport having packets with AV payloads and other packets with data payloads;

wherein the demultiplexer is configured to process AV payloads on the first transport received directly from the switch and AV payloads on the second transport received through a signaling pathway in which the switch outputs the second transport directly to the data processor

and the data processor outputs the AV payloads on the second transport directly to the demultiplexer; and

wherein the data processor is configured to separate the AV payloads from the data payloads carried in the second transport and to output the AV payloads to the demultiplexer and the data payloads to a microprocessor such that the SVD is configured to simultaneously receive both of the first and second transport streams and to decode and process the associated AV and data payloads.

22. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein the baseline architecture consists of a scheme in which MPEG AV streams are carried directly over MPEG-2 transport and the data packets are carried separately over a DOCSIS MPEG-2 transport such that different transport streams are associated with the data and the AV packets.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein the extended mode 1 architecture consists of a scheme in which MPEG-2 AV transport packets are combined with DOCSIS data packets in a single DOCSIS MPEG-2 transport stream.

24. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein the extended mode 2 architecture consists of a scheme in which MPEG-2 AV transport packets in RTP payloads over UDP over IP over DOCSIS are combined with DOCSIS data packets in a single DOCSIS MPEG-2 transport stream.

25. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:
receiving, at a demultiplexer, AV signals associated with an AV only transport from a switch, wherein the AV signals have been separated from packets associated an integrated transport;

receiving, at the demultiplexer, AV packets separated from data packets included within the integrated transport from a data processor;

demultiplexing, at the demultiplexer, AV payloads both from the AV packets and from the AV signals wherein the AV signals of the AV only transport are received directly from the

switch and wherein the AV packets of the integrated transport are received through a signaling pathway in which the switch outputs the integrated transport directly to the data processor and the data processor outputs the AV packets on the integrated transport directly to the demultiplexer; and

forwarding the AV payloads for decoding to a decoder and outputting the decoded payloads to a video port and an audio port.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the AV only transport is associated with a baseline architecture.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the integrated transport is associated with an extended mode 1 architecture.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the integrated transport is associated with an extended mode 2 architecture.

29. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the decoding decodes the AV payloads compressed according to MPEG-2 protocols.

30. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25 wherein the decoding decodes the AV payloads compressed according to advanced video compression (AVC) protocols.

31. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the AVC protocols are associated with MPEG-4.

32. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 30 wherein the AVC protocols are associated with H.264.